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GOING NAKED, A *SIGNE.*

OH Church of *England!* This is unto thee, who liveſt in oppreſſion and cruelty, pride and covetouſneſſe, a day of miſery. is coming upon thee, thy nakedneſſe and ſhame is coming upon thee as an armed Man, from which no Man can hide thee; neither Hills nor Mountaines ſhall be able to hide thee in this the Day of the Lord, neither ſhall the Cleſts of the Rocks preſerve thee from the Day of the Lords Controverſy with thee; Thy nakedneſſe and thy ſhame is near to come upon thee, from it thou ſhalt not fly: Oppreſſion and cruelty hath been as a Staff for thee, but the Lord is riſen to break thy ſtaff of oppreſſion, and thou ſhalt be left naked though thou haſt ſeemed to be the glory of the Nations with thy deceitful Covers, but now thou ſhalt be left naked, and Nations ſhall be aſhamed of thee: Howl and weep ye Teachers, for the Lord is gathering his people from you, and ye ſhall devour his flock no more; The Day is coming upon you that none ſhall buy your Wares any more, ye Merchants of *Babylon*: All your ſcarlet colours the Lord our God is coming to take off: Then your nakedneſſe ſhall appear to many Nations, and you ſhall ſit as a widdow, and there ſhall be none to comfort you; Diſtreſſe and anguiſh ſhall take hold upon you, and pain as a Woman in travel, and is not able to bring forth, ſo ſhall your miſery come upon you: The Decree of the Lord is gone out againſt all unrighteouſneſs, he will ſurely reward every one according to their works; for as a Troop of Robbers lye in wait for a Man, ſo a company of Prieſts by conſent lye in wait to murther the Innocent Lambs of God, and for their ſakes the Lord is riſen in his mighty power to break the bonds of wickedneſſe, and to ſet the oppreſſed free, for the Lord hath heard the groaning of his ſeed, and he is riſen to deliver to bring it out of Captivity, and from under the Taſkmaſters, where his ſeed hath been long oppreſſed by unreaſonable Men: But the Lord will ſpare no longer, but he will reward the Oppreſſors double into their boſoms, and his ſeed he will deliver.

Oh howl and weep, your day is far ſpent, Night is coming upon you that you ſhall not have a Viſion, and nothing ſhall be left to cover you: As naked ſhall you be ſpiritually, as my body hath been temporally naked in many places in *England*, as a ſigne of the nakedneſſe and ſhame that is coming upon the Church of *England*, who liveth in Oppreſſion and cruelty, and all who lift up a weapon for her ſhall fall in the ſhame with her, which will ſurely come to paſſe, So all ſober people conſider your wayes, and turn to the light which comes from *Jeſus*, that with it you may be gathered unto the Lord from the falſe Teachers to the teaching of the Lord, from the falſe worſhips to the worſhip of the Lord in ſpirit and in truth; For a neceſſity was laid upon me from the Lord God of life to be a ſigne: But before I was given up to the thing it was as death unto me, and I had rather, if it had been the Lords will, have dyed then gone on in this ſervice; But when the Word of the Lord came unto me, ſaying, Go on and proſper, It was ſweet unto me, as the honey and the honey Comb. And bleſſed ſaith Chriſt are thoſe that heares my Word, and keeps it.

William Simpſon.

LONDON, Printed for *Robert Wilſon*, at the *Black-Spread-Eagle*, in *Martins* near *Alderſgate*, 1666.

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